Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/803,928	NAGASE, KAZUYOSHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Anjan K. Deb	2858	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *11/08/2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *3-11*.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Anjan K Deb
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2858

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to amendment filed 11/08/2005.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 3-11 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance of the claims is the inclusion of functional circuit having one or a plurality of amplification circuits and said amplification circuit includes an output side amplification circuit for carrying out inputting and outputting of a direct-current signal from an output terminal of said sensor circuit through said connection line, and a reverse current checking means is made to check the reverse current in a transistor of said output side amplification circuit at the occurrence of the disconnection of said connection line in combination with remaining claims limitations.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Saeki (US 5,615,216) discloses circuit disconnection test circuit comprising plurality of transistors (50,51) connected to test control circuit (Fig. 1).

Sprogis (US 4,801,869) discloses disconnection detection circuit comprising plurality of transistors.

Sher (US 6,449,207 B2) discloses disconnection detection circuit for detecting fuse status comprising plurality of transistors (Fig. 2).

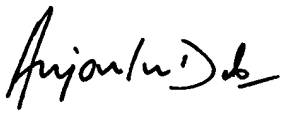
Yamaoka (US 6,943,559 B2) discloses disconnection detection circuit for circuit pattern inspection comprising plurality of conductive lines 20 (Fig. 1).

None of the above prior art references disclose the claimed functional circuit having one or more amplification circuits including output side amplification circuit and a reverse current checking means to check the reverse current in a transistor of said output side amplification circuit at the occurrence of the disconnection of said connection line in combination with remaining claims limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Anjan K. Deb whose telephone number is 571-272-2228. If

attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diane Lee can be reached at 571-272-2399.



Anjan K. Deb
Primary Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2858
1/12/06

Tel: 571-272-2228
E-mail : anjan.deb@uspto.gov